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information is also stored orderly in the form of a database on the basis of manufacturers, categories of manufactured articles, model names and others, respectively, by the individual enterprises or a corporation entrusted by the enterprises. The article specifications information is affixed to each of manufactured articles upon shipping thereof.

REMARKS

By the above amendment, the status of the parent application has been updated, as required by the Examiner, and additionally, the specification at page 39 has been amended to correct the reference numeral as pointed out by the Examiner. Accordingly, the informalities noted by the Examiner should now be overcome.

As to the rejection of claims 1-8 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-33 of U.S. Patent No. 6,226,617, as recognized by the Examiner, such rejection can be overcome by the submission of a Terminal Disclaimer. Although applicants do not acquiesce in the propriety of the non-statutory double patenting rejection, as set forth with respect to the parent application of the present continuation application, in order to expedite the issuance of a patent on this continuation application, without acquiescing in the propriety of the non-statutory double patenting rejection, submitted herewith is a Terminal Disclaimer and the appropriate fee therefor, such that this rejection should now be overcome.

In view of the above amendments and remarks and the submission of the Terminal Disclaimer, applicants submit that the informalities noted by the Examiner have been overcome and the non-statutory double patenting rejection has been overcome, such that this application should now be in condition for allowance, as noted by the Examiner. Accordingly, issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, applicant's petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (500.36322CX1) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 3 as follows:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This is a continuation of U.S. application Serial No. 09/091,192, filed June 10, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,226,617, the subject matter of which is incorporated by reference herein.

Page 39, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 10 as follows:

In the article specifications information database-~~35~~31, there is previously stored the information concerning the article specifications, as illustrated in Fig. 9. This information is also stored orderly in the form of a database on the basis of manufacturers, categories of manufactured articles, model names and others, respectively, by the individual enterprises or a corporation entrusted by the enterprises. The article specifications information is affixed to each of manufactured articles upon shipping thereof.